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CDL Hazardous Materials Endorsement Applicants and Holders Appeals and Waiver Information

Applicants who have been told they are disqualified may appeal the disqualification on the grounds of mistaken identity or other information, such as a reversed conviction. The individual may also apply for a waiver in cases where they acknowledge being convicted or found not guilty by reason of insanity of a disqualifying criminal offense, or acknowledge being adjudicated as mentally incompetent or involuntarily committed to a mental institution, but still believe they should be able to hold a HME because of other information or circumstances.

TSA must respond to an appeal or waiver within 30 days of receiving the request. At the end of the period, if no appeal or waiver is granted, TSA will notify the applicant and the State that the driver is disqualified from holding a Hazmat endorsement. If an appeal or waiver is granted, TSA will notify the applicant and the State that the driver is qualified to hold a Hazmat endorsement.

The waiver process is designed to permit drivers who are disqualified from holding a Hazardous Materials Endorsement (HME) to demonstrate that they are rehabilitated and no longer pose a security threat. Drivers may seek a waiver from the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) if:

- They were convicted within the preceding seven years for a disqualifying offense;
- They were released from incarceration within the preceding five years for a disqualifying offense;
- They were found not guilty by reason of insanity for a disqualifying offense; or
- They were found to be mentally incompetent or were committed involuntarily to a mental institution.

Please note: Current Hazmat drivers who fall into one of the categories above **must immediately surrender** their HME to the State Department of Motor Vehicles. A driver may then reapply for a HME, or submit a request for waiver.

Drivers may submit a request for a waiver at any point, even if they have not yet received the results of TSA's security threat assessment, if they know they do not meet the standards. Contact TSA for specific information on requesting a waiver.

Waiver requests should be sent to the following address:

TSA Headquarters
Attn: Hazmat Program Manager, TSA-19
Hazmat Waiver/Appeal Process
Office of Transportation Vetting and Credentialing
601 South 12th Street
Arlington, Virginia 22202

TSA Contact Center: 866-289-9673